



MFC News

Caring for the Trees and Forests of Mississippi Since 1901

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April 2013



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EARTH DAY

is



EVERYDAY

Arbor Day

The Mississippi Forestry Commission provides equal employment opportunities and services to all individuals regardless of disability, race, age, religion, color, gender, national origin, or political affiliation.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Mississippi Facts



- The Town of Midnight, Mississippi. A group of hunters were playing cards by a camp fire in 1880's. One of the men claimed the land they were on and bet his land and lost. The winner checked his watch and said, "Well boys, it's midnight and that is what I'll call my land."
- Barq's Root Beer was invented in Biloxi in 1898 by Eward Adolph Barq.
- Woodall Mountain is the highest point in Mississippi at 806 feet above sea level.

Newsletter Deadlines

All submissions are welcome. Photographs are encouraged (although space limitations may curtail inclusion). Items must be received by the **10th of the month** to be included in the next month's issue. E-mail submissions (in *Microsoft Word*) and photos to

lharris@mfc.state.ms.us

or mail to:

Lisa A. Harris

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Arbor Day ...The Start of the Tree Movement

Friday, April 26th 2013 is Arbor Day in the U.S. The national and international celebration started many years ago. In fact, Arbor Day had already been celebrated for over 100 years by the time Earth Day came around, and it all began with a journalist.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, in 1854, pioneer J. Sterling Morton moved to Nebraska from Detroit, Michigan. Saddened by the lack of greenery around him, he advocated for the restoration and preservation of trees through his column in the *Nebraska City News*. Morton educated his readers on the importance of trees for soil, shade, and as fuel and energy. He suggested the need to actively plant and conserve. Through his strong following, he became secretary of Nebraska Territory, Governor of Nebraska, and eventually the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. Morton became a crusader of forestry, and on April 10,

1872, the first Arbor Day took place in Nebraska. It was a major success, with a reported one million trees planted. Arbor Day became a legal holiday in 1885.

Despite the long history of this celebration, the world's greenery is still in dire need of help. Although about 30% of Earth's landmass is covered by forest, Panamized areas are disappearing every year, according to the *National Geographic* website. About half of the rainforests in the world have already disappeared. Estimates range, but rainforests once covered about 14% of the Earth and now grow over only 6%, and could be extinct within a century. Called a "modern day plague" by *National Geographic*, deforestation is mainly a result of human interruption. Illegal logging is a growing problem -- almost 30% of lumber is of suspicious origin, according to the Nature Conservancy, and needs of nearby farmers often re-

sult in "slash and burn" agriculture.

Daily destruction is not the only way humans are ruining the forests. Climate change has been named as a factor in brush fires, droughts, and other weather-related woodland calamities.

In honor of Earth Day, *National Geographic* published a slideshow of the Ten Most Threatened Forests. (Notes: See page 5). While some entries are well known, such as the plight of the Amazon, lesser-publicized areas like the Atlantic Dry Forest in Brazil are also suffering. "This is a forest that has been under threat for a number of years," said Richard Donovan, vice president of sustainable forestry at Rainforest Alliance.



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SMOKEYBEAR.COM



Arbor Day... More...

Arbor Day Is Everywhere

Arbor Day is also now celebrated in other countries including Australia. Variations are celebrated as 'Greening Week' of Japan, 'The New Year's Days of Trees' in Israel, 'The Tree-loving Week' of Korea, 'The Reforestation Week' of Yugoslavia, 'The Students' Afforestation Day' of Iceland and 'The National Festival of Tree Planting' in India.

What You Can Do

For the homeowner, Arbor Day is an excellent opportunity to take stock of the trees on your property and plan for the future. Inspect your trees. Note any broken branches or evidence of disease or insect infestation. Think about how planting new trees might improve the look of your property or provide wind or heat protection. Take a trip to your local nursery to see what's available and to get new ideas. Walk around your neighborhood. Are there any public areas where tree planting or tree maintenance might make a real difference to your community? Talk with your neighbors. Find out what

their opinions are. And, oh yes, plant a tree.

J. Sterling Morton

J. Sterling Morton was proud of the success of Arbor Day and noted, "Other holidays repose upon the past. Arbor Day proposes for the future." He thought trees much superior to cold marble as a memorial to persons or events. "How much more enduring are the animate trees of our own planting," he said.

Julius Sterling Morton would be proud. Sometimes one good idea can make a real difference.

Few Good Quotes or Saying

- 🌲 Only when the last tree has died and the last river been poisoned and the last fish been caught will we release we cannot eat money. Cree Indian Proverb.
- 🌲 The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The next best time is now. Chinese Proverb.
- 🌲 God has cared for these trees, saved them from drought, disease, avalanches, and a thousand tem-

pests and floods. But he cannot save them from fools. John Muir.



- 🌲 Trees outstrip most people in the extent and depth of their work for the public good. Sara Ebenreck, American Forests.
- 🌲 For in the true nature of things, if we rightly consider, every green tree is far more glorious than if it were made of gold and silver. Martin Luther.

Few Good Facts

- 🌲 There are about 1 million acres in production for growing Christmas Trees. Each acre provides the daily oxygen requirement of 18 people.
- 🌲 An acre of trees can remove about 13 tons of dust and gases every year from the surrounding environment.
- 🌲 The tallest redwood ever measured was 367 feet tall. That's 62 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty!

April's Birthdays



Jeff Ware -1
 Nathan Lidia -3
 James Daniel -8
 Sebastian Pope -9
 Michael Goodwin -10
 Sonya Lofton -10
 Tim Reed -11
 Misty Sigler -11
 Roger Williamson -11
 Robert Gill -13
 Rudolph Morgan -13
 John Barber -14
 Joel Becton -14
 Guy Berry -18
 Harold Huhn -18
 Travis Stewart -18
 Waylon Lindsay -20
 Patricia Sykes -20
 Travis VanStory -21
 Terry Brown -22
 Thomas Faye -22
 Jeff McKenzie -25
 Stacy Simmons -25
 Kyle Whitaker -25
 Joyce Brumbaugh -27
 Duane Courtney -27
 Andrea Kirkwood -27
 John McMillan -28
 Mallore Swartz -28
 Jordi Card -29
 Kevin Crosby -30
 Clarence McDaniel -30
 Martha Moore -30



NEW 7 WONDERS OF THE WORLD

- 🌍 Christ the Redeemer
Statue, Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil
- 🌍 Great Wall of China
- 🌍 The Colosseum, Rome ,
Italy
- 🌍 Petra, Jordan
- 🌍 Machu Picchu, Peru
- 🌍 Chichen Itza, Mexico
- 🌍 Taj Mahal, India

ANCIENT 7 WONDERS OF THE WORLD

- 🌍 Great Pyramid of Giza,
Egypt
- 🌍 The Colossus of
Rhodes, Greece
- 🌍 The Lighthouse of Alex-
andra, Egypt
- 🌍 The Statue of Zeus at
Olympia, Greece
- 🌍 The Hanging Gardens
of Babylon, Iraq
- 🌍 The Mausoleum of Hali-
carnassus, Turkey
- 🌍 The Temple of Artemis,
Turkey

More... Tree Fun Facts

- 🌳 A well-positioned shade tree can keep a house 20 percent cooler in the summer.
- 🌳 Trees are the longest living organism on the Earth.

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My leaves are simple, alternate and deciduous. They range in size from 2.5" to 4.5" long and 2.5" to 5.0" wide. Their margin is serrate or coarsely dentate with an abruptly long-pointed apex and a oblique and truncate or cordate base. They are cordate or ovate in shape and dark yellow-green above and pale green below. Their surface is lustrous above and rusty brown woolly pubescence below.

My twigs are reddish-brown in color, slender in size with a glabrous to slightly pubescent surface.

My buds are 0.25" in size, ovoid, acute in shape, red in color with a glabrous, rarely pubescent surface.

My fruit is a nutlet clustered on the end of peduncle attached to a bract. My fruit range in size from 0.13" to 0.25" in diameter. They are subglobose, ellipsoid or obovoid in shape. They are tan to gray in color and are hairy.

Tree Knowledge - Who Am I?

My flower is monoe-cious perfect with 8 to 15-flowered cymes hanging on a long stalk from a strap shaped green bract. My flower is pale yellow, 0.25" long and fragrant.

My bark is gray, fur-rowed with scaly ridges.

I form a single stem and reach 80 feet at maturity. I have a moderate growth rate and reach 50 feet at around 20 years of age. I have a moderate life span of greater than 50 years.

I have a moderate to high tolerance for drought with not tolerance for fire. I am tolerant of shade.

I am found along moist upland sites and level to gently sloping sites. I prefer fine to medium soil texture with a soil pH of 6.5 to 7.0. I range from North Carolina, south to Florida; west to Texas; north to Oklahoma, Missouri and Kentucky.

In Mississippi, I am reported by the NRCS Plants Database to be in Desoto, Lee Grenada, Jefferson, Amite, Adams and Forrest Counties.

I am fair food and cover for small and large mammals. I am high cavity value for cavity-nesting animals, including wood duck, pileated woodpecker and other birds and

small mammals.

I am valued for my soft, light, easily to work with wood. Especially for turned items and hand carving. I have other uses including toys, boxes, woodenware, drawing boards, veneer, venetian blinds, excelsior and pulp.

I am used as an ornamental and shade tree. My yellow leaves are great for fall color. I am a soil enriching species because I pull calcium and magnesium from the soil profile and deposit it in leaf litter.

My sap was used by Native Americans to make syrup, my leaves eaten, my cambium was used to make soups and breads. My leaf and bark extracts used for medicinal purposes. My freshly cut bark is used as a emergency wound bandage.

I am still highly valued as a source of the "finest of the fine" honeys.

Who Am I?

Tree Knowledge - Who Am I? for March 2013 was the **Northern Spicebush** (*Lindera Benzoin* (L.) Blume var. *pubescens*) Check out page 281 in the Mississippi Trees book.



Ten Most Threatened Forests

As published by National Geographic, these are the ten most threatened forests.

Amazon Rain Forest

While the rate of Amazon deforestation has slowed somewhat in recent decades, it's still among the highest of any forest in the world, according to Richard Donovan, vice president of sustainable forestry at A Rainforest Alliance.

Large tracts are being cleared annually to make way for cattle ranches and cash crops such as soy beans and, more recently, palm oil.

Another concern is the growing number of roads through the rain forest, which are aiding loggers and serving as entry points for everyone from farmers and developers to oil and mineral prospectors.

Madagascar Rain Forest

The greatest threat to Madagascar's forests is the country's widespread poverty, Donovan said, which drives many of its citizens into logging.

"Madagascar has precious hardwoods including ebony and rosewood, which are in high demand in the marketplace," he said.

"The government has tried to establish protected areas, but it's been extremely challenging."

Island Forests, The Philippines

Island forests such as this one are typically very sensitive, and many worldwide are under pressure from tourism, invasive species, and sea level rise triggered by global warming, Donovan said.

Another worry for forests is a growing middle class in developing countries, he said. "The higher your income, the more you consume"—and that includes more wood and paper products such as furniture, he said.

Mesoamerican Forests

Increasingly, the forests of Mesoamerica—a region that stretches from Mexico to Costa Rica—are being cleared to make room for agriculture, cattle ranching, and tourism resorts, Donovan said.

Eastern Atlantic forests in the region are also home to mahogany—one of the most prized tropical hardwoods in the world.

Another concern for Mesoamerican forests is the region's thriving drug trade.

Congo Rain Forest

Second in size only to the Amazon, the Congo rain forest—which extends across six African countries—is disappearing as a result of intense logging

activity and farming, specifically for crops such as cassava and oil palm.

"Of all the endangered forest regions we're talking about, [the Congo Basin] probably has the most challenging state governance anywhere," Donovan said.

"There is violence in the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and difficult challenges for virtually all the other countries in the region."

Sunderland Forest

The moist tropical rain forests of Malaysia, Indonesia, and parts of Papua New Guinea are sometimes collectively referred to as the Sunderland forest.

As with many endangered forests, the trees of the Sunderland forest are being stripped for agriculture.











Coastal East African Forests

A forest near the ancient city of Gedi, Kenya, ranks among the world's most threatened, according to Donovan.






Parts of Kenya, Mozambique, and Tanzania—together known as the coastal East African tropical and subtropical forests—are being converted to farmland to help feed the region's growing population.

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EVEN MORE THREATENED FORESTS

-  Indo-Burma Region
-  New Caledonia
-  Sundaland
-  The Philippines
-  Atlantic Forest
-  Mountains of Southwest China
-  California Floristic Province
-  Coastal Forest of Eastern Africa
-  Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands
-  Eastern Afrotropical

Even More... Tree Fun Facts

-  One tree produces nearly 260 pounds of oxygen each year.
-  Trees lower air temperature by evaporating water in their leaves.
-  Tree roots stabilize soil and prevent erosion.
-  Trees improve water quality by slowing and filtering rain water, as well as protecting aquifers and watersheds.
-  Trees provide shade and shelter, reducing yearly heating and cooling costs by 2.1 billion dollars.



- ☺ George Frye, Forest Ranger, Franklin County, Southwest District.
- ☺ Jeff McKenzie, Forest Ranger, Rankin County, Central District
- ☺ Shane Carlisle, Forest Ranger, Lincoln County, Southwest District
- ☺ Jennifer LeBlanc, Forester Trainee, Panola County, Northwest District
- ☺ Terrica M. Randle, Emergency Telecommunicator, Lee County, Northeast District
- ☺ John T. Aldridge, Forestry Technician, Holmes County, Northwest District

**April
Fools
Day**

**MOVING
UP**

- ☺ Chris Burnham to Forestry Technician
- ☺ Mike Randazzo to Forestry Technician

Earth Day...A History of the Movement

Each year, Earth Day -- April 22 -- marks the anniversary of what many consider the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

The height of hippie and flower-child culture in the United States, 1970 brought the death of Jimi Hendrix, the last Beatles album, and Simon & Garfunkel's "Bridge Over Troubled Water". Protest was the order of the day, but saving the planet was not the cause. War raged in Vietnam, and students nationwide increasingly opposed it.

At the time, Americans were slurping leaded gas through massive V8 sedans. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of legal consequences or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. "Environment" was a word that appeared more often in spelling bees than on the evening news. Although mainstream America remained oblivious to environmental concerns, the stage had been set for change by the publication of Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller *Silent Spring* in 1962. The book

represented a watershed moment for the modern environmental movement, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries and, up until that moment, more than any other person, Ms. Carson raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and public health.

Earth Day 1970 capitalized on the emerging consciousness, channeling the energy of the anti-war protest movement and putting environmental concerns front and center.

The idea came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a "national teach-in on the environment" to the national media; persuaded

Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair; and recruited Denis Hayes as national coordinator. Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land.

As a result, on the 22nd of April, 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment. Groups that had been fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife suddenly realized they shared common values.

Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders. The first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection

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(Continued from page 6)

Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts. "It was a gamble," Gaylord recalled, "but it worked."

As 1990 approached, a group of environmental leaders asked Denis Hayes to organize another big campaign. This time, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It also prompted President Bill Clinton to award Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1995) -- the highest honor given to civilians in the United States -- for his role as Earth Day founder.

As the millennium approached, Hayes agreed to spearhead another campaign, this time focused on global warming and a push for clean energy. With 5,000 environmental groups in a record 184 countries reaching out to hundreds of millions of people, Earth Day 2000 combined the big-picture feistiness of the first Earth Day with the international grassroots activism of Earth Day 1990. It used the Internet to organize activists, but also featured a talking drum chain that traveled from village to village in Gabon, Africa, and hundreds of thousands of people gathered on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Earth Day 2000 sent world leaders the loud and clear message that citizens around the world

wanted quick and decisive action on clean energy.

Much like 1970, Earth Day 2010 came at a time of great challenge for the environmental community. Climate change deniers, well-funded oil lobbyists, reticent politicians, a disinterested public, and a divided environmental community all contributed to a strong narrative that overshadowed the cause of progress and change. In spite of the challenge, for its 40th anniversary,



sary, Earth Day Network reestablished Earth Day as a powerful focal point around which people could demonstrate their commitment. Earth Day Network brought 225,000 people to the National Mall for a Climate Rally, amassed 40 million environmental service actions toward its 2012 goal of A Billion Acts of Green®, launched an international, 1-million tree planting initiative with Avatar director James Cameron and tripled its online base to over 900,000 community members.

The fight for a clean environment continues in a climate of in-

creasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change become more manifest every day. We invite you to be a part of Earth Day and help write many more victories and successes into our history. Discover energy you didn't even know you had. Feel it rumble through the grassroots under your feet and the technology at your fingertips. Channel it into building a clean, healthy, diverse world for generations to come.

Earth Day 2013

The 43rd annual celebration of Earth Day will be held on April 22 with the global theme of "The Face of Climate Change."

What are the Face of Climate Change?

A man in the Maldives worried about relocating his family as sea levels rise, a farmer in Kansas struggling to make ends meet as prolonged drought ravages the crops, a fisherman on the Niger River whose nets often come up empty, a child in New Jersey who lost her home to a super-storm, a woman in Bangladesh who can't get fresh water due to more frequent flooding and cyclones...

And they're not only human faces.

They're the polar bear in the melting arctic, the tiger in India's threatened mangrove forests, the right whale in plankton-poor parts of the warming North Atlantic, the orangutan in Indonesian forests segmented by more frequent bushfires and droughts.

(Continued on page 10)

Earth Day... Facts & Other Things

Garbage

- 🌲 The garbage in a landfill stays for about 30 years.
- 🌲 Each person throws away approximately four pounds of garbage every day.
- 🌲 Most families throw away about 88 pounds of plastic each year.
- 🌲 How long it takes some things to break down:
 - Glass - 1 million years
 - Plastics - 500 years
 - Aluminum cans - 500 years
 - Organic materials - 6 months
 - Cotton, rags, paper - 6 months
- 🌲 14 billion pounds of trash is dumped into the ocean every year
- 🌲 84 percent of all household waste can be recycled.
- 🌲 Approximately only 10 percent of every landfill can be cleaned up.
- 🌲 Computers pose an environmental threat because much of the material that makes them up is hazardous. A typical monitor contains 4-5 pounds of lead.
- 🌲 Each year billions of used batteries are thrown away in the United States. This constitutes 88% of the mercury and 54% of the cadmium deposited into our landfills.

Fuel

- 🌲 One bus carries as many people as 40 cars!

- 🌲 The 500 million automobiles on earth burn an average of 2 gallons of fuel a day.
- 🌲 Each gallon of fuel releases 20 pounds of carbon dioxide into the air.
- 🌲 Approximately 5 million tons of oil produced in the world each year ends up in the ocean.
- 🌲 One gallon of motor oil can contaminate up to 2 million gallons of water. So dispose of it properly.

Water

- 🌲 We each use about 12,000 gallons of water every year .
- 🌲 1/3 of all water is used to flush the toilet.
- 🌲 Earth is 2/3 water. But all the fresh water streams only represent one hundredth of one percent.

Energy

- 🌲 More than 1/3 of all energy is used by people at home .
- 🌲 The energy we save when we recycle one glass bottle is enough to light a traditional light bulb for four hours.
- 🌲 The amount of wood and paper we throw away is enough to heat 50 million homes for 20 years.

Paper

- 🌲 For every 2000 pounds of paper (1 ton) recycled, we save 7,000 gallons of water free from chemicals.
- 🌲 Recycled paper requires 64% less energy than making paper from virgin wood pulp, and can

save many trees.

- 🌲 Every ton of paper that is recycled saves 17 trees.
- 🌲 Recycling every newspaper would save about 250 million trees each year. Unfortunately, only 27 percent of all American newspapers are recycled
- 🌲 Approximately 1-billion-trees worth of paper is thrown away every year in the U.S.

Other Facts

- 🌲 The U. S. recycling rate in 1970 was a mere 6.6 percent for all recyclable materials. The rate today is nearly 35 percent.
- 🌲 75 percent of the water pumped out of the ground is recycled.
- 🌲 Paper is the most common item found in our trash.
- 🌲 The United States was the first country to participate in Earth Day in 1970. Today more than 175 countries celebrate Earth Day.
- 🌲 11 percent of the Earth's surface is used to grow food.
- 🌲 Earth Day is the world's largest civic observance, with more than 1 billion participants worldwide.
- 🌲 St. Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of ecology.
- 🌲 Why April 22 for Earth Day? April 22 is the first official day of Spring in the Northern hemisphere and of Fall in the Southern hemisphere.
- 🌲 The first wildlife refuge was formed on Pelican Island Florida in 1903.

Earth Day... Facts About Energy

April 22, 2013 is the 43rd Earth Day. Courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau, here's some stunning stats about how energy use and the environment in America.

In recognition of the upcoming 43rd Earth Day (April 22, 2013) and accompanying Earth Week (April 16 -22), the U.S. Census Bureau released a series of statistics relating to energy and the environment on Tuesday. We've collected them and have them below.

Fun fact: Earth Day was created by Wisconsin senator Gaylord Nelson in 1970 after the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill that dumped 100,000 barrels of crude into the Santa Barbara Channel off of California. The first Earth Day in 1970 led to the creation of the EPA and laws like the Clean Air and Endangered Species acts, and the day of recognition is still going strong.

Here's that data:

2.3 million. Estimated number of occupied housing units across the country heated by wood in 2011, which is more than 2.0 percent of all homes.

40,063. Estimated number of occupied housing units across the country totally heated by solar energy in 2011.

57.0 million. Estimated number of occupied housing units across the country heated by utility

gas in 2011, which is about half of all homes.

88%. Estimated percent of newly built single-family homes across the country with air-conditioning in 2011. In 1974, it was 48 percent.

25.5 minutes. Estimated average time for workers age 16 and older across the country spent getting to work in 2011, up from 25.1 minutes in 2009 and 25.3 minutes in 2010.

32.2 minutes. Estimated average time for workers age 16 and older in Maryland spent getting to work in 2011, the longest commute time in the nation. That's up from 31.8 minutes in 2010.

16.9 minutes. Estimated average time workers age 16 and older in North Dakota and South Dakota spent getting to work in 2011, tied for the shortest one-way commute time in the nation.

49,174. Number of workers employed in nuclear electric power generation across the U.S. in 2010, up from 41,502 in 2009. They had an average salary of \$109,021, down from \$110,355 in 2009.

53,525. Number of workers employed in forestry and logging across the U.S. in 2010, up from 53,003 in 2009. They had an average salary of \$37,215, up from \$35,128 in 2009.

19,061 trillion Btu. The energy consumption in the U.S. manufacturing sector in 2010, down almost 10 percent from the 21,098 trillion Btu (British thermal units) consumed in 2006.

-46%. The drop in the consumption of residual fuel oil in the U.S. manufacturing sector in 2010, going from 314 trillion Btu in 2006 down to 170 trillion Btu consumed in 2010.

2,480 square feet. The average size of a single-family house built in 2011.

\$267,900. The average sales price of a new single-family home in 2011. In 2008, the average sales price was \$292,600.

9,000. The number of multi-family buildings built across the U.S. in 2011. Of these, 51 percent had at least 10 units.

\$1.5 billion. Estimated revenue for "waste collection – hazardous waste management collection services" in 2011 for esti-

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

mated sources of revenue for U.S. employer firms.

\$6.3 billion. Estimated revenue for “waste treatment and disposal – hazardous waste treatment and disposal services” in 2011 for estimated sources of revenue for U.S. employer firms. This was up 9.2 percent from 2010.

\$6.3 billion. Estimated revenue for “local, fixed-route passenger transportation, by road and transit rail” in 2011 for estimated sources of revenue for employer

firms. This is up 4.8 percent from 2010.

37.3 million. The July 1, 2011, population of the coastal portion of states stretching from North Carolina to Texas — the area most threatened by Atlantic hurricanes. Approximately 12 percent of the nation’s population live in these areas.

15. The number of hurricanes to hit Florida’s Monroe County from 1960 to 2008, the most in the country. The estimated population on July 1, 2011, of 73,873 is up 1.1 percent from the 73,090 counted

on the last Census Day (April 1, 2010). Lafourche Parish in Louisiana and Carteret County in North Carolina have each seen 14 hurricanes from 1960 to 2008.

Lafourche’s 2011 estimated population 96,666 and has risen 0.4 percent since the 2010 Census. Carteret’s 2011 estimated population of 67,373 has risen 1.4 percent.

38, 010. Estimated number of occupied housing units across the country heated by solar energy in 2010.

Earth Day... April 22, 2013

(Continued from page 7)

These faces of climate change are multiplying every day.

For many, climate change can often seem remote and hazy – a vague and complex problem far off in the distance that our grandchildren may have to solve. But that’s only because they’re still fortunate enough to be insulated from its mounting consequences. Climate change has very real effects on people, animals, and the ecosystems and natural resources on which we all depend. Left unchecked, they’ll spread like wildfire. Luckily, other faces of climate change are also multiplying every day.

Every person who does his or her part to fix the problem is also a

Face of Climate Change: the entrepreneurs who see opportunity in creating the new green economy, the activists who organize community action and awareness campaigns, the engineers who design the clean technology of the future,



the public servants who fight for climate change laws and for mitigation efforts, the ordinary people

who commit to living sustainably... On April 22, 2013, more than one billion people around the world will take part in the 43rd anniversary of Earth Day. From Beijing to Cairo, Melbourne to London, Rio to Johannesburg, New Delhi to New York, communities everywhere will voice their concerns for the planet, and take action to protect it. We’ll harness that power to show the world The Face of Climate Change. And we’ll call on our leaders to act boldly together, as we have, in this pivotal year.

For more information on Earth Day 2013, check out this link <http://www.earthday.org/2013/about.html>.

Ten Most Threatened Forests

(Continued from page 5)

Himalaya Moist Forests

The Himalaya tropical and sub-tropical moist forests stretch from Nepal, through Myanmar (Burma) and northern India, and into Laos.

These forests are under "enormous pressures," Donovan said.

For example, the forests are being cut to meet both the needs of locals and those of the exploding middle classes in China and India.

Savanna Forests, South American

Brazil's Cerrado Woodlands (pictured) is one of the largest savanna environments in the world.

While Africa's famous savannas are home to animals such as elephants and lions, eastern South America's savannas contain lesser known species such as the maned wolf and the greater rhea, a flightless bird.

Dangers to the Cerrado include agriculture, charcoal production, water projects, and cattle ranching, Donovan said.

Atlantic Dry Forest

Flat-topped mesas dominate southeastern Brazil's Chapada Diamantina National Park, part of the Atlantic dry forest.

"This is a forest that has been under threat for a number of years," Donovan said. "Agriculture conversion and development are the big threats."

Overall, people don't have to live in countries with endangered forests to make a difference, Donovan said.

"Look at where things come from," he suggested.

"Whether it's at the grocery store or when you go to Home Depot, you can make a positive contribution with every ... buying decision you make."



Workers clear a road through Brazil's Amazon rain forest—one of the world's ten most threatened forests, according to an international conservation group. Photograph by Bruce Dale, National Geographic



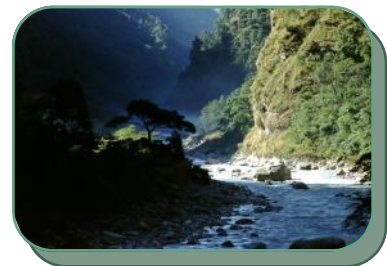
This panther chameleon is one of thousands of species found nowhere else than in the rain forests of Madagascar. Such species are at risk of becoming extinct if the island's moist tropical forests and dry forests disappear. Photograph by Raul Touzon, National Geographic



A river flows through a rain forest in the Philippines' Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park. Photograph by Tim Laman, National Geographic



A forest near the ancient city of Gedi, Kenya, ranks among the world's most threatened, according to Donovan. Photograph by Ariadne van Zandbergen, Alamy



Sunlight clears away the morning mist in Nepal's Kali Gandaki River Valley. Photograph by Andrew Wheeler, Alamy



A boy in a basin navigates through a floating village in Tonle Sap Great Lake, Cambodia, on September 13, 2009. Photograph courtesy Sitha Som, Conservation International

City Of Grenada Arbor Day Ceremony

The City of Grenada held their annual Arbor Day Ceremony at the Flowers-Perry City Park on Friday, February 8, 2013 with 32 people in attendance. Pictures submitted by George Byrd, Northern Outreach Forester, MFC.



Grenada County Tree Give Away

Photo submitted by Brittany Wilkerson, District Clerk, Grenada County Soil & Water Conservation District.



Tree Planted In Memory Of Local Forester

From The Chronicle, by Kathryn Romero, Staff Writer.

A ceremony honoring Jasper County Service Forester, Tim Hinton, was presented on Wednesday at Jones county Junior College. The ceremony was hosted by the Mississippi Forestry Association, The Jones County Forestry Association and the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

Tim Hinton, who died in a hunting accident in November, was a former JCJC forestry student who graduated from Mississippi State.

He was a Service Forester and Tree Farm Inspector with the MS Forestry Commission for 3½ years.

During the dedication, a live oak was planted in his memory. As Tedrick Ratcliff, Executive Vice President of the Mississippi Forestry Association, explained, the live oak was chosen because it is a symbol of life and strength. It is especially resistant to insects and disease and it does not shed its leaves in the winter. Hinton's favorite tree was the white oak.

Jim Walley, head of forestry at

JCJC; Stacey E. Pickering, chaplain and State Auditor; and Charlie Morgan, State Forester, also presented at the event.

Meacham Harlow, Southern Outreach Officer for the Mississippi Forestry Commission, extended a special thanks to Jones County Junior College and Walley for providing a location for the planting and dedication.

Approximately 50 people attended the ceremony, including Hinton's parents, Marsha and Tommy Hinton, and his grandmother, Bobbie Hinton.



A tree planting ceremony was held Wednesday morning to honor Tim Hinton, a forester who was killed in a hunting accident last year. Pictured from left, Tedrick Ratcliff, Executive Vice President of Mississippi Forestry Association, parents, Marsha Hinton and Tommy Hinton; grandmother, Bobbie Hinton; State Forester Charlie Morgan, and State Auditor Stacey Pickering.

New Tree Arboretum in Green County

High school forestry students from the Green County Vo-Tech are planting trees at their new 'Tree Arboretum'. They were granted the Urban and Community Forestry Grant from the MFC. They invited the elementary students to help plant some of their trees last Arbor Day. It was a very successful and educational hands on learning experience for the elementary kids.

They also got to play a part in the restoration of the Greene County's Vo-tech Tree Arboretum. Which was destroyed in the April 15, 2012 tornado that destroyed their outdoor forestry lab including 60-80 year old trees. This devastating event allowed them to ask for assistance from the MFC, thru the urban and community forestry grant, in order to restore their Outdoor Lab

Story and photos by Meacham Harlow, Southern Outreach Officers for the Mississippi Forestry Commission.



City of Olive Branch

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen Of the City of Olive Branch



*Invite you to join the 15th
Annual Arbor Day Celebration*

*Friday, March, 22, 2013
11:00 A.M.*

*Olive Branch City Park
Amphitheater*

*Please call Pam Martin at
(662) 892-9375*

With your plans to attend



Olive Branch, MS Arbor Day event was held on March 22nd with nearly 50 people in attendance on a cold rainy day. Memorial trees were planted in memory and honor of six individuals in the city park. Photos submitted by George Byrd, Northern Outreach Forester, MFC.

NWD Longevity Awards

By Mark Williamson, District Forester, NWD MFC.

The Northwest District held its Longevity Awards on March 1, 2013. Recipients were served lunch and recognized with Certificates and Lapel Pins commemorating their years of service.

- Mac Ables – Northwest District Assistant District Forester – Five Year Award
- Marcia Stark – Yalobusha/Tallahatchie Administrative As-

sistant – Five Year Award

- Leola Alexander – Northwest District Office General Services – Ten Year Award
- Erma Steed – Grenada County Administrative Assistant – Ten Year Award
- Phyllis Vining – Northwest District Central Dispatch – Twenty Year Award
- Louis Anderson – Washington/Bolivar Ranger II – Twenty Five Year Award

The employees were commended for their years of service to the Mississippi Forestry Commission and to the citizens of Mississippi. Appreciation for their dedication to their jobs and to fellow employees was the theme for the day. Everyone within the district expressed their appreciation to our Longevity Award recipients and wished them continued success within the Agency.



1



2



3



4



5



6

1. Mark Williams, Louis Anderson and Cheryl Arnold
2. Mark Williams and Leola Alexander
3. Mark Williams and Mac Ables

4. Phyllis Vining
5. Mark Williams, Erma Steed and Ken Cline
6. Mark Williams, Marcia Stark and Jim Edwards



Mississippi Firewise

By Mary Thames, NRCS-CD, Poplarville, MS

Dylan Griffin, 11 year old son of Guy and Leigh Holston of Poplarville, MS attended the Firewise Workshop on February 21 in Poplarville as part of a 4-H project. He is in Lucky 13 4-H Club, led by Connie Williams. His 4-H project is forestry. Dylan has hand planted 50 pine seedlings on his parents' land, part of 80 acres planted in LongLeaf Pine.

He thought learning some Firewise facts would be useful as he continued work on his project. His grandmother also attended the workshop with Dylan. They both soon realized that this was very valuable information that everyone needs to learn or at least be reminded of.

They asked Opie if it would be possible for him to present this program to his 4-H club members and parents. They hope to schedule that sometime this spring.

After learning that Pearl River County has had the highest incidence of wildfires in MS in the past, Dylan wanted to help his community be better prepared to prevent such fires and loss of homes. This workshop opened the eyes of all that attended and the workshop sponsor -Pearl River County Soil & Water Conservation District -hopes to see the benefits of planning a Firewise home.



Firewise Question (from www.firewise.org)

What is the cause of most wildfires?

- 🔥 An overwhelming number of brush, grass and forest fires (between 87 and 96 percent) are caused by people, according to statistics collected by the National Interagency Fire Center and the National Fire Incident Reporting System.
- 🔥 While about 20% of all such fires are intentionally set, most human-caused fires are accidental and related to careless disposal of hot embers, ash or cigarettes.
- 🔥 Regardless of the cause, local fire departments in the U.S. responded to an average of 356,800 such fires annually between 2004 and 2008. See the [National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\)](http://www.nfpa.org) and the [National Interagency Fire Center \(NIFC\)](http://www.nifc.gov) for more information on wildfire causes and frequency.



In one year, an acre of trees can absorb as much carbon as is produced by a car driven up to 8700 miles.

Firewise Program Seeks To Reduce Wildfires

By Butch Weir, Editor, *The Poplarville Democrat*.

POPLARVILLE – Leslie “Opie” Blackwell, Firewise coordinator with the Mississippi Forestry Commission, said during his Firewise program “How To Have... A Firewise Home Workshop” the high incidence of wildfires in Mississippi and Pearl River County might be connected to a low level of common sense.

Much of the damage left by woods fires came from not understanding the nature of wildfires and knowing the simple, common sense steps available to reduce their severity, or prevent them, he said.

The Firewise program of the Mississippi Forestry Commission seeks to provide that knowledge.

“In Mississippi we do have a fire problem,” Blackwell said, citing 1996 statistics showing Mississippi as fourth in the nation in the number of wildfires at 5,706 that consumed 88,000 acres. He said from 2007 to 2011 the states 5-year wildfire average was 2,496 fires covering 34,513 acres.

Pearl River County, historically, ranked in the top five counties for fire occurrence in the state and for July 1, 2010, to June 1, 2011 the county took the top spot – 234 fires covering 4,455 acres, he said. Put in perspective, Blackwell said an acre is equivalent in size to a 50 by 100 yard football field meaning Pearl River County lost to wildfire an area equivalent to 4,455 football fields.

Whitesand, Derby and Steephollow were the county’s hot spots in the incidence of wildfires, which he

illustrated by a power-point slide where a single dot represented a reported fire. The cluster of dots in those three areas were almost solid. With those sobering statistics in mind Blackwell then began to explain some of the Firewise concepts.

An important step in establishing a Firewise rural home landscape, Blackwell said, is to create a “defensible space” of approximately 30 feet around a home — remove excess trees, shrubbery and clutter like a junk car. When trees are too close together, too near a building or there is too much clutter, the firefighter’s ability to move equipment close enough to a fire is hampered.

Being Firewise doesn’t mean cutting every tree or preventing landscaping, he said. Firewise measures can include proper location of trees, keeping pine straw raked, cleaning gutters, sweeping roofs, and keeping a three foot non-combustible space cleaned around a house foundation.

A live ember from a fire some distance away on a cluttered roof or an unraked yard can lead to a house fire, he said. Also, the type of plants in a landscape and where they are planted can make a difference because some vegetation burns more easily than others.

While many of the examples Blackwell used were taken from rural setting, he said cities and subdivisions in forested areas were not immune. The same Firewise prevention steps need to be followed because an approaching woods fire can start fires by the same methods.

A cluster of trees, a grown-up, vacant lot or dry mulch at the base

of a house can prove a ready source of fuel for a stray ember from a nearby rural fire to start a fire in a subdivision or urban setting. An uncontrolled wildfire can start from lightening, debris burning, arson, a careless cigarette or a campfire. Blackwell said debris burning and arson accounted for the bulk of wildfires in Mississippi.

Michael Burke, local forestry commission technician, estimated 90 percent of wildfires could be traced to human activity, noting arson is a problem in Pearl River County.

Blackwell said forest fires, wildfires, are a part of nature “but we don’t have to lose homes every time we do.” One of the keys is an awareness of the shared responsibility of the firefighter and homeowner and that they are partners in dealing with fires along with the rest of the community’s components.

Information on the specific steps homeowners and landowners can take is available in the USDA Forest Service pamphlet, “It Could Happen to You!: How to Protect Your Home!.” More information relating to the Firewise program and related forestry service material can be found online at www.mfc.ms.gov.



Work Capacity Testing

The Southwest District had their "Pact Test" Work Capacity Testing for Wildland Firefighter on March 13, 2013.

What is the Pact Test?

The Pact Test refers to work capacity tests used to qualify individuals for three levels of wildland firefighting duty. The work capacity test levels are:

- 🔥 Arduous - involves field work calling for above-average endurance and superior conditioning. All firefighters are required to perform arduous duty.
- 🔥 Moderate - involves field work requiring complete control of physical faculties and may include considerable walking, standing and lifting 25-50 lbs. Safety officers and fire behavior analysts are examples of moderate duty position.
- 🔥 Light - involves mainly office

type work with occasional field activity. Example includes: staging area and helibase managers.

Training for the "Pack Test"

Training for the Pack-Field-Walk should start at least 4-6 weeks before you are schedule to take the test. You should train in the footwear or boot you will be wearing on the job. Footwear should be ankle high and protect the ankles.

Be sure to train for the test level you will need to pass for the duties you will be require to perform.

When training for arduous and moderate duty, start with out the "pack" and gradually increase distance and begin carrying appropriate weights. Increase the weight until you can meet the requirements for arduous or moderate duty.

Before you begin training for the test consult your physician. This is especially important if you are over 40 and have been inactive, have a history of heart conditions, chest pain, loss of balance or have a joint or bone problem that could be made worse by a change in physical activity.

Weights, What Weights.

You mean I have to walk and carry weights? Yes, you must carry weights if you are training for the moderate to arduous levels. The chart below provides test criteria for arduous, moderate and light duty performance.

| Fitness Requirements | Test | Description |
|----------------------|------------|--|
| Arduous | Pack Test | 3 mile hike with 45 pound pack in 45 minutes |
| Moderate | Field Test | 2 mile hike with 25 pound pack in 30 minutes |
| Light | Walk Test | 1 mile in 16 minutes |





1. Getting Instructions
2. On Your Mark, Get Ready
3. Get Set
4. Go, They are off ...
5. Moving On...
6. Almost There
7. Finish Line ... Home Free
8. We did it!!!

Congratulations

Garden & Patio Show 2013

By Meacham Harlow, Southern Outreach Officers, MFC.

The MFC Firewise Display and information/awareness booth was on display at the recent Garden and Patio Show in Biloxi, MS.

Our booth offered very informative and educational material for the people to fill up their bags and take home. We also had some handy promotional items to give away, along with some great door prizes.

"Opie" Leslie Blackwell, Firewise Coordinator, and Meacham Harlow, Southern Outreach Officer were on site for this three day event, talking to visitors and answering their questions and putting them in contact with the correct MFC contact person for their specific location.

We had a very busy three days with a lot of visitors, and we were able to guide landowners seeking help in the right direction, while at the same time increasing awareness and educating people on Firewise tactics and what they can do to help protect their home and their community in the threat of a wildfire.



News from Mississippi Forestry Association

2012: SP Exports Dip, Softwood Imports Up



Southern Pine exports finished 2012 at a volume just over 385 million board feet (MMbf), a dip of 2% from the 2011 export total, according to the latest trade data released by the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service. That 2012 volume exported still represents an increase of 23% above the 312 MMbf exported in 2010. The top three destinations for Southern Pine exports in 2012 were, Dominican Republic (56.4 MMbf), Mexico (47.8 MMbf) and China (28.4 MMbf).

For the month of December, exports totaled 46 MMbf, a hefty 85% increase from December 2011. December shipments offshore break down as follows: 17.6 MMbf dressed, 20.0 MMbf rough and 7.5 MMbf treated lumber.

Softwood lumber imports to the U.S. finished 2012 with a volume of 9.7 billion board feet (Bbf), up six percent from 2011. December imports are reported to be 728 MMbf, eight percent below December 2011 imports. Imports from Canada totaled approximately 9.4 Bbf during 2012 and 699 MMbf in December. For questions, contact Vernon Barabino at 504/443-4463, ext. 224, or by e-mail at vbarabino@sfpa.org

Legislative Luncheon at the Old Capitol Inn

Representatives from County Forestry Associations and MFA Board of Directors hosted legislators and state-wide elected officials Thursday, March 7 at the 12th Annual MFA/CFA Legislative Luncheon. More than eighty legislators and elected officials joined over 150 MFA and CFA members for the luncheon at the Old Capitol Inn. Gee Ogletree, attorney with Adams and Reese, LLC, and a national leader in forestry presented a brief overview on the 75 years of successful partnering between MFA and the Mississippi Legislature. Please [click here](#) for a full sponsor list.

Mississippi Loggers Association at Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital

The Mississippi Loggers Association thanks you for your interest in MLA Log-A-Load for Kids. MFA recently joined MLA at the Children's Hospital (see above pictures) as they presented a check for \$103,000.00 to help the pediatric patients. Your tax-deductible donations can be made online, [click here](#), or you can mail a check to the mailing address listed on the web page as well. Please feel free to contact our office at 601-776-5754 for more information. Photographs courtesy of Nate Irby.





Naturefest! - Saturday, April 06, 2013, 10a.m. - 5p.m.

For additional information, visit the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science website or [click here](#).

Mississippi Society of American Foresters Annual Meeting, April 8 -10, 2013

All Things Wild and Wonderful is the theme of this year's Mississippi Society of American Foresters Annual Meeting to be held April 8 - 10, 2013. The meeting will be held at the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum in Jackson, MS.

Highlights include:

- ◆ Tours of the Ag & Forestry Museum
- ◆ The Blues Rangers and Crawfish boil
- ◆ Forestry Suppliers Tour
- ◆ Programs on Forestland Valuation, Road Building BMPs, Wild Turkey, Fire on the Forty and Ethics.

For more details, check out the Mississippi society of American Foresters website at this link: <http://www.cfr.msstate.edu/mssaf/meeting.html>. This link contain the agenda, registration form, hotel information, continuing education, speakers and exhibitor/sponsor information.

Prescribed Burn Short Course, April 9-11, 2013

This hybrid (online and face to face) short course consists of approximately 21 hours of class room and field work in addition to the completion of the S-290, 32 hour online pre-course. The S-290 online pre-course **MUST** be completed prior to attending the face to face portion of this course.

Participants completing the online S-290, *Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior* and Prescribed Burning Short course will understand:

- the state laws regarding your liability in applying a prescribe fire
- the benefits, limitations and risks of applying prescribe fire
- forest fuels and fuel classification
- how weather and fuel moisture affect fire behavior
- a variety of ignition techniques
- methods for managing smoke
- how to properly plan and execute a prescribe burn

Fee: \$250.00 (Must be received before access is granted)

Location: Lake Tiak-O-Thata, Louisville, MS

[Registration Form](#).

Earth Day 2013 - April 22, 2013 (43rd Anniversary of Earth Day)

Confederate Memorial Day - April 29, 2013. (State Holiday). The last Monday of April is set aside for the observance of Confederate Memorial Day.

Safety First . . .

Are You Ready For The Next Storm?

Here are some steps you can take to be prepared for the next storm or other emergency situations.



Update Your Contacts.

Include your emergency point of contact and phone numbers for work and children's schools. Also add the police and fire departments, hospitals, vets and your insurance company.



Build An Emergency Supply Kit.

Gather enough food, water, batteries and other essentials to support your family for 72 hours. Be sure to keep a generator, radio and charged cell phones on hand as well.

Emergency Supplies:

Water, food, and clean air are important things to have if an emergency happens. Each family or individual's kit should be customized to meet specific needs, such as medications and infant formula. It should also be customized to include important family documents.

Recommended Supplies to Include in a Basic Kit:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert, and extra batteries for both

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First Aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Infant formula and diapers, if you have an infant
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt, to help filter the air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)



Create A Family Plan.

Your family may not be together when a disaster strikes so it is important to plan in advance: how you will get to a safe place; how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations. Read more about [Family Communication](#) during an emergency.

Ready.gov has made it simple for you to make a family emergency plan. Download the [Family Emergency Plan \(FEP\)](#) (PDF - 750 Kb) and fill out the sections before printing it or emailing it to your family and friends.

You should also inquire about emergency plans at places where your family spends time: work,

daycare and school, faith organizations, sports events and commuting. If no plans exist, consider volunteering to help create one. Talk to community leaders, your colleagues, neighbors and members of faith or civic organizations about how you can work together in the event of an emergency. You will be better prepared to safely reunite your family and loved ones during an emergency if you think ahead and communicate with others in advance. Read more about [school and workplace plans](#).

With the weather we have been having in the last few weeks, you never know when the next storm will strike. For more information on being prepared, visit FEMA's website at http://www.ready.gov/severe-weather?source=EC1N000000owbu00E0313_trdo_nat_i_fema.



First Time, Every Time